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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/070,738	08/16/2002	Albert John Dzermejko	APV31549	9734
24257	7590	01/25/2005	EXAMINER	
STEVENS DAVIS MILLER & MOSHER, LLP 1615 L STREET, NW SUITE 850 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			KASTLER, SCOTT R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1742	

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/070,738

Applicant(s)

DZERMEJKO ET AL.

Examiner

Scott Kastler

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/20/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9-20-2004 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hille et al in view of McKoon. Hille et al teaches that in cooling plates for shaft furnaces, it was well known in the art to employ cast in steel tubes in a copper casting as the cooling plate (see col. 1 lines 25-34 for example). Hille et al also teaches, in the embodiments of the figures for example, that it was known in the art at the time the invention was made to equip cooling plates for shaft furnaces with a multiplicity of horizontal ribs (9) where the ribs include supporting backs (the bottom portions of the rib support the upper portions) and where the ribs thicken towards their free ends (see col. 4 lines 55-65 for example), and that these ribs serve to hold a refractory for protecting the cooling plate, thereby showing all aspects of the above claims except to specifically teach that the ribs are also employed on cooling plates made by casting copper

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around steel cooling tubes, any specific rib dimensions, or the use of Monel as the tube material. However, with respect to the use of ribs on a cooling plate, the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made because improved protection of the cooling plate would also be desirable in the cooling plates disclosed by Hille et al which include cast in steel cooling tubes, and it would have been a modification obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a multiplicity of horizontal ribs, as taught by Hille et al, in the cast copper cooling plate including cast in steel cooling tubes, also taught by Hille et al, in order to improve protection of the cooling plate and thereby increase the service life of the cooling plate. With respect to rib shape, or dimension, the ribs of Hille et al operate in substantially the same manner (by allowing the adhesion of slag or refractory to the cooling plate) for substantially the same purpose (to improve the protection and service life of the cooling plate) as that of the instantly claimed rib configuration. It has been well settled that where, as in the instant case, a prior art component is shown to operate in substantially the same manner for substantially the same purpose as claimed, motivation to alter the configuration or shape of the component (in the instant case, the rib configuration) without materially altering the operation or function of the component would have been a modification obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. See *In re Dailey*, 149 USPQ 47 and MPEP 2144.04 IV B. In the instant case, absent any showing of new or unexpected results arising therefrom (such as improved refractory or slag retention, or improved resistance to breakage) presented in proper declaration or affidavit form, motivation to alter the configuration or shape of the ribs (9) of Hille et al to any desired shape or configuration, as long as the function (slag or refractory retention) required by Hille et al is

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maintained, would have been a modification obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. Finally, with respect to the use of Monel as the material for the tubes of Hille et al, both of McKoon (pp 46-49) teaches that in water cooled cooling devices where preformed cooling tubes are cast into a copper plate, it was known in the art at the time the invention was made to employ Monel as the material for the cooling tubes and that this combination of Monel tubes and a cast copper plate is desirable because the higher melting point Monel tubes are less likely to be melted and/or degraded during the casting of the lower melting point copper plate around the tubes. Because reduction of melting of the cast in tubes would also be desirable in the cooling plate described by Hille et al, motivation to employ Monel as the tube material, as described by McKoon, in the copper cooling plate described by Hille et al, would have been a modification obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 9-20-2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments that Hille et al does not teach the instantly claimed rib shapes or configurations and are therefore more susceptible to stress forces are not persuasive because, as stated in the above rejection, these arguments and conclusory statements have not yet been presented in proper declaration or affidavit form, and it has been well settled that arguments and/or conclusory statements in the specification alone, are not sufficient to establish new or unexpected results. See *In re Wood et al* 199 USPQ 137.

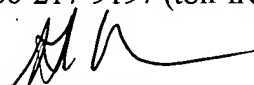
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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott Kastler whose telephone number is (571) 272-1243. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King can be reached on (571) 272-1244. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Scott Kastler
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1742

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